



CMBC's Vision for Unified Worship

Since the inception of the two service model at CMBC, leadership has strived to have two identical worship services and experiences. Our goal is to be one church that offers two services, as opposed to two different churches that happen to occupy the same building and are served by the same staff.

I believe that if you would have taken the time to visit both services, you would have to concede they are very different. Although there is significant crossover in many elements of the service, they are strikingly different when it comes to corporate singing and family celebrations. After taking an honest evaluation of our two services, and considering our commitment to a unified worship model, the elders believe that by initiating these significant time modifications to our Sunday services, we can more effectively reach our goal of collectively worshipping God in spirit and in truth!

We understand that change is often disruptive and inconvenient and we know that this time change will cause some upheaval to many individuals and programs. Yet the elders are unified in the belief that this is the best course of action for CMBC at this time. We are truly sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you or the ministry in which you serve. We trust you can appreciate that we are a values-driven ministry when it comes to the decisions we make, not preference-driven. Although your preference is of great importance to us, it remains a distant second to values!

Here is a brief summary of why the elders believe that having two equal services best enables us to worship God in spirit and truth:

- The drastic imbalance of congregational participatory worship between the first and second service. To worship in spirit means to be engaged in the act of worship; one of the main ways that is done in our worship services is through our singing together. We believe corporate singing glorifies God and inspires His people. Unfortunately, due to time restraints, our corporate participatory worship can be limited to just one or two songs, causing an imbalance of true worship in spirit and in truth.
- 1 Peter calls the unique people of God to bring an offering of worship through songs of praise to our deserving Lord. We do not want to limit the opportunity of our people to lift up that offering due to time restraints.
- The last issue is that those who attend the first service routinely miss out on the family celebrations of baptism, welcoming new members, and baby dedications. Our goal is to have the family celebrate these moments and acts of God's grace together, so four times a year during the ABF hour, we will join together as a church family to celebrate what God is doing among us.

In conclusion, we believe that by tweaking the times of our worship services and by installing these family Sundays during the ABF hour, we will better worship God in spirit and in truth.

Sincerely,

Pastor Bryan